

Remarks

Applicants respectfully request entrance of the amendments as detailed above, in the continuation application filed herewith under 37 C.F.R. § 1.53(b). Applicants respectfully submit that the continuation application filed herewith on October 28, 2003, is co-pending with application number 09/874,514, which claims priority to application number 09/986,025, now Patent No.: 6,242,469, which issued June 5, 2001, which claims priority to U.S. Provisional Application Serial Nos. 60/032,282, 60/033,767, 60/047,566, 60/047,941, and 60/055,533, filed December 3, 1996, January 14, 1997, May 22, 1997, May 29, 1997, and August 13, 1997, respectively.

Applicants respectfully submit that no new matter is presented with these amendments. Rather, the original specification, as filed on December 3, 1997, has been provided for filing under 37 C.F.R. §1.53 (b), and Applicants respectfully submit that this preliminary amendment is requested to correct formal matters in the specification (*e.g.*, addition of a statement of continuation application status (with incorporation by reference), addition of a statement regarding government support, and ensuring consistency between the specification and formal drawings).

Additionally, Applicants would like to bring a typographical error in the declaration to the Examiner's attention. Specifically, the name of one inventor Dongfang Meng is incorrectly listed as Dang Fang Meng. Applicants respectfully submit that the correct spelling is Dongfang Meng. As set forth in MPEP 605.04(b), "when a typographical or transliteration error in the spelling of an inventor's name is discovered during the pendency of an application, a petition is not required, nor is a new oath or declaration under 37 CFR 1.63 needed". Applicants thus respectfully request that reference is made to this notification on the declaration so that any further correspondence (*e.g.*, filing receipts) and issued patents will reflect the correct spelling of his name.

Applicants would like to thank the Examiner in advance for review of this request. If it is believed that a telephone conversation would expedite matters, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at (617) 248-5215. The Examiner's attention is also directed to the recent change in power of attorney and correspondence address, as submitted herewith. Although it is believed that there is no fee associated with this amendment, if Applicants are mistaken, please

charge any fees to our Deposit Account No.: 03-1721.

Respectfully Submitted,



C. Hunter Baker, M.D., Ph.D.

Reg. No.: 46,533

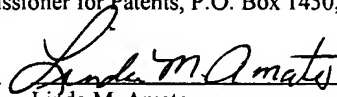
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10-28-03

Date



Linda M. Amato